Harry Noden, author of ***Image Grammar***, says, “The author is an artist, painting images of life with specific and identifiable brush strokes, images as realistic as Wyeth and as abstract as Picasso.” And just as a painter relies on fundamental elements so, too, does a writer. Noden provides teachers with five grammatical structures which he calls “brushstrokes.” Students use literature—mentor text—to identify and imitate writers who paint beautiful pictures with words.

The following lesson is an experiment the sound and rhythm that the repeated prepositions provide. The imitation example comes from a math lesson; it can be adapted for other content areas.

**The Music of Parallel Structures: an Image Grammar Lesson**

There is a fifth ***dimension*** beyond that which is known to man. It is a ***dimension as vast as space and as timeless as infinity***. It is the middle ground ***between light and shadow, between science and superstition***, and it lies ***between the pit of man’s fears, and the summit of his knowledge***. This is the ***dimension*** of imagination. It is an area which we call…THE TWILIGHT ZONE.

There is a fifth dimension beyond that which is known to man. It is a dimension as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ between \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, between \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and it lies between the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of his/her \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This is the dimension of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It is an area we call…THE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ZONE.

The Sports Zone, The Nature Zone, The School Zone, The Music Zone, The Political Zone, The Crime Zone, The Friendship Zone, the Cafeteria Zone, The Hate Zone, The ???

Imitation Example

There is a fifth dimension beyond that which is known to man. It is a dimension as acute as one degree and as obtuse as 179 degrees. It is the vast plane between simple addition and advanced algebra, between infinity and probability, and it lies between the teacher’s daily cup of hot coffee and the student’s daily pile of homework problems. This is the dimension of chalkboard scribbles. It is an area which we call…THE MATH ZONE.